

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 107857 TOSEC 040217
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH:WLT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 107857 TOSEC 040217

NODIS

WHITE HOUSE FOR DR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT JIDDA SENT ACTION SECSTATE 121010Z MAY 7.

QUOTE: S E C R E T JIDDA 3437

NODIS

FOR ATHERTON AND SOBER FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (FAHD BIN ABD AL AZIZ), PFOR, SA, US

SUBJECT: PRINCE FAHD VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES; IMPENDING BOYCOTT
LEGISLATION

REF: (A) STATE 080395, (B) JIDDA 3350, (C) STATE 106878
(D) JIDDA 3436

1. DURING MY FAREWELL CALL ON PRINCE SAUD THIS MORNING (MAY 12),
I SAID WE HOPED TO HAVE AS SOON AS THEY COULD PROVIDE IT INFORMATION
PERTAINING TO PRINCE FAHD'S VISIT, WHO WOULD BE STAYING WITH HIM IN

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BLAIR HOUSE PLUS ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ABOUT AGENDA OR TENTATIVE
SCHEDULE. HE SAID AMBASSADOR ALIREZA IS HERE NOW AND IS IN THE
PROCESS OF COLLECTING THAT INFORMATION. HE WILL BE RETURNING TO
WASHINGTON TOMORROW MORNING AND WOULD MAKE IT AVAILABLE TO THE
DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY. I SAID THAT WAS VERY HELPFUL AND INQUIRED
AS TO WHEN THEY WOULD MAKE THE FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING
THE VISIT. HE SAID THAT WOULD BE WHEN WE ARE READY. I SAID THAT

WOULD BE ON THE 14TH OF THE MONTH, WHICH WAS AN ERROR IN VIEW DEPT'S DESIRE TO ANNOUNCE TODAY, MAY 12. LATTER DATE IS NOW IMPRACTICAL BECAUSE HE SAID SAG WISHED TO WITHOLD THE ANNOUNCEMENT PENDING CLARIFICATION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE FOLLOWING MATTER:

2. PRINCE SAUD SAID THAT SAUDI GOVERNMENT HAS LEARNED THAT A CONGRESSIONAL VOTE ON THE ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION COULD COINCIDE WITH DATES OF THE VISIT. THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT OF COURSE HAS NOTHING TO SAY ABOUT U.S. LAWS WHICH ARE A MATTER OF U.S. GOVERNMENT INTEREST ONLY. AS FAR AS TIMING IS CONCERNED, ANY VOTE OR ACTION TAKEN ON OR ABOUT THE TIME PRINCE FAHD WOULD BE IN WASHINGTON WOULD NOT APPEAR TO BE HELPFUL, ESPECIALLY IN THE LIGHT OF MESSAGES WHICH THE PRESIDENT AND THE CROWN PRINCE WOULD BE EXCHANGING. VOTES OR OTHER BOYCOTT ACTIONS WOULD APPEAR LIKELY TO CONTRADICT THEIR EXCHANGES. HE KNEW ALLEGEDLY MORE FAVORABLE "BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE" VERSION OF THE LEGISLATION, BUT HE REPEATED ANY KIND OF USG ACTION ON BOYCOTT LEGISLATION AT THE TIME OF, BEFORE, OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE VISIT WOULD BE VERY UNFORTUNATE.

3. THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA HOPES THAT THIS WILL NOT OCCUR AND WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE ANYTHING THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CAN DO TO POSTPONE ANY UNHAPPY DEVELOPMENT OF THAT NATURE, WHICH WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT THROUGHOUT THE ARAB WORLD. IF A DELAY IS NOT ACHIEVABLE, HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE HAPPY TO RECEIVE ANY SUGGESTIONS THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT MIGHT HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION THAT COULD ARISE.

4. THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT, HE REPEATED, WILL ANNOUNCE THE VISIT
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ON THE 14TH IF IT HAS U.S. GOVERNMENT COMMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT BY THAT TIME. HE ASSUMES ANNOUNCEMENT BY U.S. WILL BE COORDINATED.

5. COMMENT: HE WAS MAKING IT QUITE CLEAR THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA CONSIDERS PRINCE FAHD'S PRESTIGE TO BE BOUND UP IN THIS MATTER. IN MY VIEW, YOU SHOULD INFORM HIM IMMEDIATELY THAT THE DEPARTMENT WILL DO EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER TO AVOID ANY OCCURRENCE OF THE NATURE HE MENTIONED.

6. REF C ABOVE ARRIVED AFTER I SAW SAUD. MOST OF THE MATERIAL IN IT WAS COVERED IN CONVERSATION AS SAUD WAS WELL AWARE OF DEVELOPMENTS. WE WILL GET IT TO FAHD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT I AM QUITE CONVINCED THAT IT IS YOUR REPLY TO THEIR WORRY ABOUT ANY KIND OF ACTION ON ANY KIND OF LEGISLATION IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE VISIT THAT THEY WILL BE WAITING FOR.

7. PLEASE ENSURE NO RPT NO ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE VISIT IS MADE PENDING RESOLUTION OF THIS MATTER.
PORTER

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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